which are so often found among marine vegetation. A piece of bark, which appeared to be of an oak, was found in one stomach. Several fish contained considerable gas in their alimentary tract. This could not have been due to mortification as the specimens were examined on capture. It was probably generated by the processes of digestion.

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NOTES ON A POSTLARVAL SCIAENOID FISH WITH THREE ANAL SPINES

A young specimen of the common Californian sciaenoid, *Genyonemus lineatus* Ayres, 34 mm. long to caudal, found dead on the beach at Montecito, on the mainland shore of the Santa Barbara Channel, on July 12, 1916, has three unquestionable anal spines: the third is small, and apparently characteristic only of the young, disappearing with age (a young *Seriphus politus* from Laguna Beach, California, 52 mm. long, taken on December 27, 1914, has only two anal spines). The entire family Sciaenidae is currently characterized by "the presence of never more than two anal spines," but the Haemulidae, probably ancestral to the Sciaenidae, normally possess three anal spines, the number typical of most Acanthopterygii.

This young individual further differs widely from the adult in not having the posterior dorsal spines greatly shortened, the lowest being longer than half the orbital length; in the greater length of the second anal spine (3.0 in head), and in the development of coarse flat spines along the preopercular margin, of which those at the angle are directed downward.

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